MTRC can enable direct & instant communication amongst various agencies engaged in operational and maintenance activities, thus providing vital information in circumstances endangering safety. MTRC can even alert trains in vicinity in such situations.

Surprise checks of baggage by RPF

293. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are many passengers who carry inflammable materials with them concealed in their baggage;

(b) if so, whether RPF is entitled to conduct surprise baggage checks at all major railway stations;

(c) if so, the number of checks conducted by RPF at Delhi stations in the last one year and the details of questionable/objectionable items confiscated by the RPF during these surprise checks; and

(d) how many cases were booked after such checks for questionable/ objectionable items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. However since carrying of dangerous and inflammable items will endanger the safety of the passengers and the trains, passengers, found carrying dangerous and inflammable items are detained for action under the Railways Act, 1989 and other laws.

(c) In the course of normal duties, in the year 2003, at Delhi Railway Station, Railway Protection Force had apprehended 11 persons carrying Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) cylinder, stove with kerosene etc. During the period from January to September 2004, 05 persons were apprehended for carrying Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) cylinder, Acid battery, stove with kerosene oil etc.

(d) Action under the provisions of Section 164 of the Railways Act, 1989 was taken in 07 cases in the year 2003 and 04 cases up to September, 2004.